

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

 querying a file that defines a protocol for which protocol support is to be added to a network traffic generation and analysis tool to process network traffic;

 determining from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed;

 building a protocol runtime specification based on how packets for the protocol are constructed, the protocol runtime specification specifying how packets for the protocol are processed by the network traffic generation and analysis tool;

 receiving packets for the protocol; and

 processing data from the received packets in the network traffic generation and analysis tool in accordance with the protocol runtime specification, including translating data from the received packets into a proper format for analyzing traffic in the network traffic generation and analysis tool.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the file is written in an Extensible Markup Language (XML).
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining from the file how to display one or more user interface elements.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed comprises determining whether there are one or more protocol encapsulations.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed comprises determining a field type of one or more fields for the protocol.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed comprises determining a field size of one or more fields for the protocol.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed comprises determining a default value of one or more fields for the protocol.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed comprises determining whether there is a calculation to be performed for one or more fields of the protocol.

9. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a storage element to store a file that defines a protocol for which protocol support is to be added to a network traffic generation and analysis tool to process network traffic; and

a translation unit coupled to the storage element to query the file to determine how packets for the protocol are constructed and to build a protocol runtime specification for the protocol, the protocol runtime specification specifying how packets for the protocol are processed by the network traffic generation and analysis tool; and

the translation unit to further process data from the received packets in the network traffic generation and analysis tool in accordance with the protocol runtime specification, including translating data from the received packets into a proper format for analyzing traffic in the network traffic generation and analysis tool.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a network interface coupled to the translation unit.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the stored file is written in an Extensible Markup Language (XML).

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the translation unit further determines from the file how to display one or more user interface elements.

13. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising:

a machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by a machine causes the machine to:

query a file that defines a protocol for which protocol support is to be added to a network traffic generation and analysis tool to process network traffic;

determine from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed;

build a protocol runtime specification based on how packets for the protocol are constructed, the protocol runtime specification specifying how packets for the protocol are processed by the network traffic generation and analysis tool;

receive packets for the protocol in the network traffic generation and analysis tool; and

process data from the received packets in the network traffic generation and analysis tool in accordance with the protocol runtime specification, including translating data from the received packets into a proper format for analyzing traffic in the network traffic generation and analysis tool.

14. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 13, wherein the file is written in an Extensible Markup Language (XML).

15. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 13, wherein the machine-accessible medium further includes content that causes the machine to determine from the file how to display one or more user interface elements.

16. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 13, wherein the machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by the machine causes the machine to determine from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed comprises the machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by the machine causes the machine to determine whether there are one or more protocol encapsulations.

17. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 13, wherein the machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by the machine causes the machine to determine from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed comprises the machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by the machine causes the machine to determine a field type of one or more fields for the protocol.

18. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 13, wherein the machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by the machine causes the machine to determine from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed comprises the machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by the machine causes the machine to determine a field size of one or more fields for the protocol.

19. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 13, wherein the machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by the machine causes the

machine to determine from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed comprises the machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by the machine causes the machine to determine a default value of one or more fields for the protocol.

20. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 13, wherein the machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by the machine causes the machine to determine from the queried file how packets for the protocol are constructed comprises the machine accessible medium including content that when accessed by the machine causes the machine to determine whether there is a calculation to be performed for one or more fields of the protocol.

21. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

- a storage element to store a file that defines a protocol for which protocol support is to be added to a network traffic generation and analysis tool to process network traffic;
- a translation unit coupled to the storage element to query the file to determine how packets for the protocol are constructed and to build a protocol runtime specification for the protocol, the protocol runtime specification specifying how packets for the protocol are processed by the network traffic generation and analysis tool, the translation unit further to receive packets for the protocol and to process data from the received packets in; the network traffic generation and analysis tool in accordance with the protocol runtime specification, including translating data from the received packets into a proper format for analyzing traffic in the network traffic generation and analysis tool;

a network interface coupled to the translation unit; and
a network driver coupled to the network interface.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the stored file is written in an Extensible Markup Language (XML).

23. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the translation unit further determines from the file how to display one or more user interface elements.